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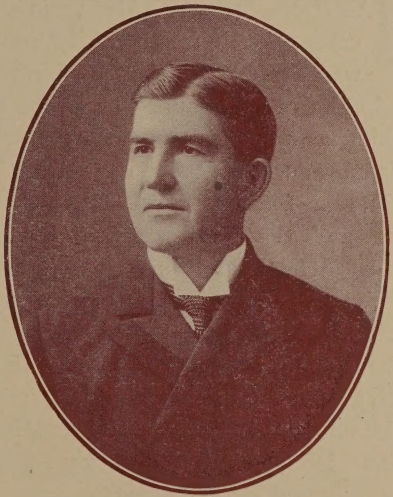
A Missionary Doctor from China



Rev. Marion D. Eubank, M.D.

American Baptist Missionary Union
Boston, Massachusetts

A Missionary Doctor from China

MARION D. EUBANK, in this country on furlough during 1907–8, was a Kentucky boy by birth, but now hails from Missouri, whence he went to China as a medical missionary in 1899. He is a graduate of William Jewell College, the Marion Sims Medical School at St. Louis and the Northwestern University Medical School, and has also studied at the Divinity School of the University of Chicago.

The station to which Dr. Eubank was appointed was Huchow, a city of 100,000 inhabitants in our East China Mission. Almost immediately the Boxer troubles broke out, and our missionaries were compelled to leave their stations. When they returned they found the people more friendly than ever, and confidence and affection grew rapidly through the doctor's ministry. The problem was a difficult one in many respects. The Chinese are not

only unsanitary in their ways of living, but they believe in evil spirits as the cause of disease. Dr. Eubank, therefore, put the case very clearly when he said, "Dirt, dampness, darkness and devils are the foes we have to combat in our medical work."

In spite of these obstacles the medical and evangelistic efforts of Dr. Eubank — for he has strongly emphasized the latter — have been very successful. He has treated over 6,000 patients in a single year, and has gained the respect and support of the mandarins and other leading men for his work. When the new dispensary was opened at Huchow, a delegation of the principal officials of the city was present. On one occasion the doctor was called to attend the highest official in the city, a fact which showed a remarkable degree of confidence in the foreign doctor.

In the dispensary, in the Chinese homes, on his tours through the country, — everywhere Dr. Eubank uses his medical work to open the door for the preaching of the gospel of Christ. A touching incident is the story of Min Yang, a boy who was treated at the hospital for a severe abscess on his arm. Through his successful treatment all the neighbors were led to have a

more favorable opinion of the doctor and his mission, and the boy's father became willing that Min Yang should be baptized and trained as a Christian teacher. In this manner, through the work of the missionary doctor, fear and hatred are leaving hundreds of hearts all over China.

When Dr. Eubank returned to America on furlough in 1906, plans were maturing for the third interdenominational conference of China missionaries at Shanghai, which was also to celebrate the centennial of the beginning of Protestant missions in China. These plans included an urgent request that a delegation of Baptist pastors and laymen visit China to investigate the conditions and needs of the work. It was owing largely to the energetic presentation of this plan to churches and business men by Dr. Eubank that our large deputation to the Far East was secured. Through the generosity of friends Dr. Eubank accompanied them as a guide, and aided very materially in the effectiveness of the visit. Since his return to this country he has been visiting the churches in cooperation with other members of the deputation. He is particularly skilful in presenting the subject of foreign missions to business men.

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